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SENATE MEMORIAL 43

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2010

INTRODUCED BY

Mary Jane M. Garcia

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY TO DEVELOP A UNIFORM
DOMESTIC ABUSE REPORT FORM.

WHEREAS, the survey of violence victimization in New Mexico, conducted in 2005, found that one in four New Mexicans are victims of domestic violence at least once in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the study also identified seventeen thousand one hundred seventy-seven stalking victims who experienced two hundred forty-five thousand six hundred thirty-one stalking incidents in that same year; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that domestic violence rates are as high, and sometimes higher, in rural areas as they are in urban centers; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico is a state with a diverse population;

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1 and

2 WHEREAS, a variety of traditions and customs are observed
3 within the state; and

4 WHEREAS, in order to better understand and respond to the
5 dangers of, and the harms caused by, domestic violence and
6 stalking, a uniform reporting system is needed; and

7 WHEREAS, a uniform domestic abuse report form that is used
8 by all law enforcement agencies across the state would improve
9 the information gathered in domestic violence cases, improve
10 investigations and encourage professionalism within the law
11 enforcement agencies; and

12 WHEREAS, a uniform domestic abuse report form should be
13 developed by the department of public safety, in consultation
14 with local law enforcement agencies statewide, to assist in
15 protecting public safety and to provide for better management,
16 greater coordination and more efficient use of resources in the
17 response to domestic violence in New Mexico;

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
19 OF NEW MEXICO that the department of public safety be requested
20 to develop, in consultation with local law enforcement agencies
21 statewide, a standard domestic abuse report form to be used by
22 law enforcement officers when investigating or making an arrest
23 for a violation of the Crimes Against Household Members Act,
24 the Harassment and Stalking Act or a similar municipal or
25 county ordinance; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department of public
2 safety report its progress to the appropriate interim
3 legislative committee no later than October 2010; and

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
5 transmitted to the secretary of public safety.

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